

The Common Council of the City of Knox met in regular session Tuesday January 28, 2020 in the Knox City Hall at 7:00 PM CST with the following members present: Mayor, Dennis Estok; Clerk-Treasurer, Cyndi Kidder; Councilmembers, Jeff Berg, Ron Parker, Don Kring, Bill Gustafson, Sherry Cowen and City Attorney, Autumn Ferch.

Before the meeting began Mayor Estok took a moment to honor Al Berndt for his 45 years of dedication to the Knox Center Township Fire Department. Mayor Estok presented Mr. Berndt with a plaque for his service to our Fire Department, City and County.

RE: AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

Ron Parker made a motion, seconded by Bill Gustafson to add an appointment to the Planning Commission on the agenda. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and NO (0) nays.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were mailed to the Councilmembers prior to the meeting for their review. Jeff Berg made a motion, seconded by Don Kring to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: REQUEST FOR PERF AND ADJUSTMENT

The City of Knox's Account Clerk Lilas M. Booth (Gidget) presented a letter to the Board asking for the City to approve and credit her PERF Retirement Fund for the Four (4) years and Seven (7) months that she worked full time and was not enrolled from December 1, 1988 through June 30, 1993. Councilmember Don Kring made a motion seconded by Bill Gustafson to follow through with the process of retaining Four (4) years and Seven (7) months' worth of PERF Benefits for Lilas Booth. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER

Councilmembers Bill Gustafson rescinded his nomination to the Plan Commission. Councilmember Don Kring nominated Jeff Berg to a One (1) year term, with a vote of Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays. Mr. Berg graciously accepted the nomination.

RE: PICKLEBALL COURT FUNDING

Mayor Dennis Estok asked the Council for funds to complete the Four (4) additional Pickleball Courts. An additional fund match will be asked for from the Knox Redevelopment Commission. Bill Gustafson made a motion, seconded by Ron Parker to approve the funds. Motion passed with Five (5) ayes and No (0) nays.

RE: CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer, Cyndi Kidder reported last week she attended the 2020 AIM Newly Elected Officials Training in Indianapolis. She reported overall it was a very interesting learning experience and she learned a lot.

RE: MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dennis Estok spoke about the online survey for the Façade Program. At this time, only 25 surveys have been completed. No one has picked up any paper surveys from City Hall. More surveys need to be completed. Mayor Estok got the approval from OCRA to use the awarded funds from the Stellar Program.

Mayor Estok reminded the Council that the City needs to become a Main Street Community as soon as possible so that available Grants can be applied for.

RE: COUNCIL ITEMS

Council President Jeff Berg congratulated Al Berndt again for his 45 years of dedication to the Knox Fire Department the City and County.

RE: CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Jim Master, Editor of the Starke County Leader informed everyone he will be leaving the Leader and WKVI's Jacque Ryan will be the new Editor of the Starke County Leader. The Mayor and Councilmembers all congratulated Jacque.

RE: VOUCHERS AND ALLOWANCES

The following properly filed vouchers (see Voucher Docket, Voucher #28515 - #28576 inclusive) were presented and approved.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time the meeting upon motion was duly adjourned.

Dennis Estok, Mayor

Attest: _____
Cyndi Kidder, Clerk-Treasurer